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Stewart, Michael P

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**From:** Casey-Lefkowitz, Susan [sclefkowitz@nrdc.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 08, 2011 10:43 AM  
**To:** Casey-Lefkowitz, Susan  
**Subject:** Yellowstone River oil spill and the proposed Keystone XL tar sands pipeline - NRDC blogs update

We wanted to share with you NRDC's analysis thus far of the tragic Exxon pipeline spill into the Yellowstone River and its implications for the proposed Keystone XL tar sands pipeline. Please note that we have just posted a blog that clarifies claims that TransCanada has been making regarding the safety of the proposed Keystone XL tar sands pipeline. And yesterday we posted a blog in response to the Wall Street Journal editorial on the pipeline.

**Clarifying facts about TransCanada's proposed Keystone XL tar sands pipeline following the Yellowstone River oil spill**  
In the days following the Yellowstone River oil spill, TransCanada has defended its proposed Keystone XL tar sands pipeline, that would cross the same river, in statements to the press and in an email to Congressional offices. However, TransCanada's claims of safety do not withstand close scrutiny. Read more at:  
[http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/aswift/clarifying\\_facts\\_about\\_transca.html](http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/aswift/clarifying_facts_about_transca.html)

**Wall Street Journal support for tar sands pipeline based on mirage**

The Wall Street Journal editorial of July 7, 2011 (Jobs in the pipeline) sets up jobs and energy security against protecting our air and water resources in throwing its support to TransCanada's Keystone XL tar sands pipeline. Yet, the editorial's support for the pipeline is based on a mirage, not on true jobs or energy security. And it barely touches on the darker side of tar sands oil: increased global warming pollution, oil spills and Boreal forest destruction. The best plan for America to achieve jobs and energy security is through investment in clean energy. Only clean energy will give us the homegrown, long-term economic prosperity, environmental safety and energy security that we need. Read more at:  
[http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/sclefkowitz/wall\\_street\\_journal\\_support\\_fo.html](http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/sclefkowitz/wall_street_journal_support_fo.html)

**Yellowstone River oil spill shows dangers of even riskier Keystone XL tar sands oil pipeline under same river**

Once again this weekend, we saw a clear example of how water and oil don't mix when an Exxon oil pipeline spewed around 40,000 gallons into the wild Yellowstone River in Montana. The mess is likely a wakeup call for officials in Montana. And is yet another reminder for pipeline regulators around the country that we have a problem. It's been a bad year with spills in Michigan, some big messes in Canada, spills all along first Keystone tar sands oil pipeline in the Great Plains, a spill in downtown Salt Lake City and now in the longest undammed river in the lower 48 states. As these spills take a toll on American waters, landscapes, and communities. I wonder when we will get focused on fixing our faulty infrastructure to stop these messes--and if we can afford to build another mega-pipeline across our most sensitive water resources without fixing the problem. Read more at:

[http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/sclefkowitz/yellowstone\\_river\\_oil\\_spill\\_sh.html](http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/sclefkowitz/yellowstone_river_oil_spill_sh.html)

**Yellowstone oil spill demonstrates deep problem with reactive pipeline safety regulators**

Exxon-Mobil's 42,000 gallon oil spill in the Yellowstone River reveals a troubling problem with the safety of the United States pipeline system. It may take years to realize the full extent of the long-term damage that this spill has caused to one of our nation's last wild rivers. However, this spill is a clear warning that our pipeline safety regulations are not strong enough to provide adequate protection for sensitive resources like the Yellowstone River. This spill should be a wakeup call for the Obama administration as it considers a proposal to build Keystone XL, a far larger pipeline which would carry corrosive raw tar sands across the Yellowstone and Missouri Rivers. Read more at:

[http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/aswift/yellowstone\\_oil\\_spill\\_demonstr.html](http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/aswift/yellowstone_oil_spill_demonstr.html)

**Yellowstone River Damaged by Exxon Pipeline Oil Spill – Exxon's History in Montana Continues Its Abysmal Path**

While everyone is holding their collective breath, hoping that future developments do not worsen regarding the news that an Exxon pipeline carrying oil crude broke in the middle of the Yellowstone River outside of Billings Montana releasing thousands of gallons of crude into the river, industry's record for safeguarding oil and gas pipelines in the state

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of Montana – and Exxon specifically – is dismal. Read more at:  
[http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/bmcenaney/yellowstone\\_river\\_damaged\\_by\\_e.html](http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/bmcenaney/yellowstone_river_damaged_by_e.html)

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***We've moved as of July 5, 2011: Please note new address.***

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